NCDOT TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING DEC. 5 FOR THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF A PRIVATE CROSSING WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD (NCRR) AND NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD (NS) AT BYRDSVILLE RD

TIP Project No. P-4405K

The N.C. Department of Transportation will hold a public meeting in December regarding the proposed closure of a private crossing with the North Carolina Railroad (NCRR) and Norfolk Southern Railroad (NS) in Orange County.

The meeting will take place on **Thursday**, **Dec. 5** at the **Shared Visions Retreat Center** (auditorium) located at **3717 Murphey School Road in Durham** from **5 to 7 p.m.** Interested citizens may attend at any time during the meeting hours, as there will be no formal presentation. NCDOT representatives will be available to answer questions and listen to comments regarding the project. Citizens will also have the opportunity to submit comments and questions in writing.

The NCDOT Rail Division is proposing the closure of the private railroad crossing at Byrdsville Rd. An alternate route will be used when this crossing is closed. The alternate route for Byrdsville Road would include Walter Clark Drive and a new road to be constructed connecting Byrdsville Mobile Home Park to Walter Clark Drive. Together these will provide alternate access to N.C. 86.

The crossing is to be closed in the interest of improved safety for local residents using the existing crossing and for rail crews and passengers. This rail line is part of the Southeast High Speed Rail (SEHSR) corridor which will have increased train speeds and more freight and passenger trains in the future.

The acquisition of right-of-way is scheduled to begin in 2014 followed by construction in 2015. These schedules are tentative and subject to change.

For more information, please contact Ryan White, NCDOT Senior Rail Project Development Engineer at 1553 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1553, or by phone at (919) 707-4717 or via e-mail at RLWhite@ncdot.gov.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact White as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Persons who speak Spanish and do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494.